



BY C. & C. ZARLEY.

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RISE IN YOUR NATIVE STRENGTH.

Rise in your native strength,
 Mechanics of the land,
 And dash the iron rule
 From rude oppression's hand!
 By all the might of MIND,
 Assume the place of man—
 Head not the scuff of those
 Who scorn the artisan.

Ye sinews of state,
 Your nation's pride and boast,
 Whose glory crowns her hills,
 And guide your native coast;
 You are her wealth in peace,
 Her vital breath ye are;
 And when the bolts of death are hurled
 Ye are her shield in war!

By the eternal sword,
 To stern bowed justness given
 By Freedom's holy self,
 The might of wrong is riven!
 Strong monuments arise,
 In record of your praise,
 Transmitting down your names,
 To men of other days—

Proclaim to all the world
 Your usefulness and worth,
 Speak out with trumpet tongue,
 Ye mighty men of earth!
 Was the soil you tread
 Won by your father's blood?
 Then on Oppression's self
 Roll back Oppression's flood.

Seize with determined hand
 The standard sheet of right,
 And let not even death
 Turn your resolves to flight.
 By him who gave to man
 The soul's ethereal fire,
 That glorious day is now—
 Our motto, onward—HIGHER!

Storming of Stony Point.

BY J. T. HEADLEY.

"But the most brilliant action of Wayne's life, and one the most illustrative of his character, was the storming of Stony Point. Washington, at Wayne's request, had organized a corps of light infantry, and put him over it, with directions to take this stronghold. This fortress was apparently impregnable to any storming party; for, situated on a hill, it was washed by the Hudson on two sides, while on the other lay a marsh which every tide overflowed. Besides these natural defences, a double row of abattis surrounded the entire hill, and on the top were high ramparts bristling with cannon. Six hundred veteran troops garrisoned this rock; sufficient, one would think, to defend it against five times the number. But it was no common obstacle that could deter Wayne when his mind was once made up, and he determined, formidable as it was, to execute the task assigned him or perish in the attempt.—It is said that while conversing with Washington on the proposed expedition, he remarked: "General, if you will only plan it, I will storm H-1."

"He carefully reconnoitered the ground and having ascertained the exact position of things, he formed his plan of attack.—On the 15th of July, 1779, he started from Sandy Beach, 14 miles distant and at eight in the evening arrived within a mile and a half of the fortress. It was now twilight, and the mild summer evening with its cooling breeze stole over the water—the stars came out one by one on the sky, and the tranquil river flowed by in majestic silence, and all was sweet and peaceful. While nature was thus reposing in beauty around him, Wayne with his strong soul wrought up to the task before him, stood in the gathering shades of the evening, and gazed long and anxiously in the direction of the fortress.

"Over hills, across morasses, and along the broken shores of the Hudson, he had led his little army noiselessly, in Indian file, and now waited for the deepening night to lock his enemies in slumber. Still undiscovered by the garrison, he began to reconnoitre the works more closely, and at half past eleven put his columns in motion. He divided his army into two portions, one of which was to enter the fortress on the right, and the other on the left. In advance of each went a forlorn hope of twenty men, to remove the piles of rubbish that were stretched in double rows around the rock, and placed just where the batteries could mow down the assailants the fastest. Behind these forlorn hopes of the army marched two companies of a hundred and fifty men each.—Wayne knew that everything must rest on the bayonet, and so he ordered the load of every musket, of those two companies to be drawn, while the first man who should take his from his shoulder, or utter a word without orders, or attempt to retreat, was to be put to death by the officer nearest him. Silently these devoted bands submitted to the desperate measures, and fixing a piece of white paper in their caps to distinguish them from the enemy, gallant moved forward at the low word of command. At midnight the two columns headed by their forlorn-hopes came in sight of the fortress, along whose dark ramparts, the sentinel was lazily treading his accustomed round, while the deep 'All's well' fell faintly on the listening ear. Grim and still the huge black rock loomed up against the sky, soon to

shake with its own thunder, and stand a blazing volcano in the midnight Heavens. Noiseless and swift, the fearless patriots kept on their way, when Jol as they came to the marsh, they saw only a smooth sheet of water—the tide was up flooding the whole ground; the brave fellows paused a moment, as this new and unexpected obstacle crossed their path, but at the stern 'forward' of their leaders, they boldly plunged in, and without a drum or bugle note to cheer their steady courage, moved on in dead silence straight on the palisades. The noise had now alarmed the sentinels, and the rapid discharge of their muskets through the gloom was followed by lights moving swiftly about on the ramparts, and hurried shouts of 'To arms! To arms!' and the fierce roll of drums, rousing up the garrison from its dream of security. The next moment that dark rock was one mass of flame, as the artillery and musketry opened along its sides, shedding a lurid light on the countenances of the men below, and 'Advance! Advance!' rung in startling accents along the ranks.

"The ramparts were alive with soldiers, and amid shouts and hurried words of command, the fiery torrents from the summit kept on these devoted men. The water around them was driven into spray by the grape shot and balls that fell in an incessant shower, while the hissing, bursting shells traversing the air in every direction, added inconceivable terror to the scene. Yet these forlorn-hopes toiled vigorously on, and heaved away at the abattis to open a gap for the column, that, without returning a shot, stood and crumbled under the fire, waiting with fixed bayonets to rush to the assault. At the head of one of these was Wayne, chatting like a lion in the toils, at the obstacles that arrested his progress. The forlorn hope in front of him, worked steadily on in the very blaze of the batteries, and the rapid blows of their axes were heard in the intervals of the thunder of artillery, that shook the midnight air, while one after another dropped dead in his footsteps, till out of the twenty that started, only three stood up unharmed.—Yet still their axes fell steady and strong until an opening was made through which the columns could pass, and then the shout of Wayne was heard above the din and tumult, summoning his followers on. With fixed bayonets they marched sternly through the portals made at such a noble sacrifice and pressed furiously forward—through the morass—over every obstacle—up to the very mouths of the cannon, and up the rocky acclivity, they stormed on crushing everything in their passage. Towering at the head of his shattered column, pointing still onward and upward, with his glittering blade, and sending his thrilling shout back over his followers, Wayne strode steadily up the height, till at length struck in the head by a musket ball, he fell backward amid the ranks. Instantly rising on one knee he cried out—"March on! carry me into the fort, for I will die at the head of my column!" And those heroes put their brave arms around him and bore him on. Not a shot was fired, but taking the rapid volleys on their unshrinking breasts, their bayonets glittering in the flash of the enemy's guns, they kept on over the living and the dead, smiting down the veteran ranks that threw themselves in vain valor before them, till they reached the centre of the fort, where they met the other column, which, over the same obstacles, had achieved the same triumph.—At the sight of each other, one loud shout shook the heights and rolled down the bleeding line—was again sent back till the Heavens rung with the wild huzzas, and then the flag of freedom went up and flaunted away on the midnight air. The thick volumes of smoke that lay around that rock, slowly lifted and rolled up the Hudson, the stars appeared once more in the sky, and all was over. The lordly river went sweeping by as it had done during the deadly strife that cast such a baleful light on its bosom, and darkness, and death-like silence, shrouded the shores. Mournfully and slow those forlorn-hopes and their brave companions who had fallen in the assault, were bro't up from their gory beds and conveyed to the grave.

"Wayne's wound proved not to be severe—the ball only having grazed the skull for two inches, and he lived to wear the laurels a grateful nation placed on his brow. The country rung with his name and Congress presented him with a gold medal. The whole plan of the assault was most skillfully laid, and the bearing of Wayne, throughout was gallant in the extreme. He chose the post of danger at the head of his column, and led his men where even the bravest might shrink to follow, and when struck and apparently dying, heroically demanded to be carried forward, that he might die in the arms of victory, or be left where the last stand was made. His troops were worthy of such a leader, and more gallant officers never led men into battle.

A Wigan auctioneer advertised on the wall for public sale last week, sundry silk dresses, &c., winding up with "one bottle of rum, one bottle of whiskey, and several other articles suitable for ladies."—Eng. paper.

Cor. of the St. Louis Republican. Curious Military and Religious Facts.

CHIHUAHUA, March 7, 1847.

Our little army, I think, is becoming infected with a mixture of religion and superstition—caused by a few singular circumstances, which I will briefly relate:

In coming through a mountain gorge, called the Jornada, there was not a drop of water to be found within seventy miles! Our wearied animals—particularly the oxen—became exhausted, and sunk down, as we supposed, to rise no more. Our situation was appalling, and relief seemed to be beyond the range of possibility.—At this moment, a clap of thunder was heard, and streaks of lightning seen to play along the mountain—black clouds rolled rapidly up, and rain came down in torrents—the parched desert was soon drenched—the animals and men refreshed, wondering and rejoicing. No rain had fallen in this part of Mexico for upwards of four months, and no one expected a drop until the beginning of the rainy season, which commences about the 15th of June.

On the morning of the battle, Col. Mitchell and half a dozen officers were riding some distance in advance of the army, when a large black wolf was seen galloping across to the mountain on our left. Col. M. exclaimed, in a half-laughing, half-serious manner, "Gentlemen! we are certain to meet the enemy this evening. If that wolf crosses our path, it is ominous of bad luck, and he will feast on our dead bodies before morning." The men immediately reigned up, and every one watched the movements of the animal with breathless anxiety. He was on the point of crossing in front of us, when Col. Mitchell dashed to the left, exclaiming, "If the tide of fortune!" The wolf was headed and driven off before us, which caused a hearty shout of triumph.

During the battle, when a portion of troops were falling back, (from some mistaken order,) the enemy raised a shout and poured in a general discharge of artillery.—At the same moment, the Mexican cavalry began to advance, and confusion was beginning to show itself in our ranks. At this critical moment, Col. M. dashed up at full speed in front of the right wing, (which he commanded,) and cried out to one of his friends, "There's the black wolf about to cross our path, but I'll stop him! Column! forward—gallop!" The history of the battle, if correctly written, will show that he did stop him! Again, when we consider the enemy's force and positions, the Mexican loss compared with our own, it really looks as if the hand of Providence guided the whole affair.

The whole of the whig leaders, together with their interpreters, the whig press, are totally opposed to every one of the measures, and the entire policy of the democratic party. They tell the people that every act, every principle, and every measure of the localities are calculated to ruin the country as well as disgrace it; and some of the opposition presses go so far as to assert, that if democratic sway is to continue, the Union ought to be speedily dissolved. Yet in the face of this uproarious gasconade, we find these same whig captains nominating a man for president, whose proudest claim is, they tell us, for the support of the people, is that he belongs to "no party." The Sangamon Journal, the Morgan Journal and the Quincy Whig particularly dwell upon this point.

If Gen. TAYLOR's principles are mixed if he belongs to no party, if he is as much democrat as whig, it is manifest that his nomination by the whigs is evidence that some of the democratic principles, so long and so vehemently denounced by these whig journals, are not, in their estimation, after all, so very much calculated to ruin the country and work the overthrow of the republic. The democrats have made inquiries in relation to the opinions of the General, on the great political topics which divide the two parties, and all the response that we get from the whigs is, that he is the "national candidate" and not that of a party. In announcing this they in effect admit that the great panic raised about the tariff of '46 was got up, not because there was anything odious in the tariff, but because it was projected and established by the democracy. They admit that the ruin discourses of the last year have been prompted by a determination to break down the administration by falsehood and misrepresentation, they admit, that the offices of the government are more to be desired by themselves, than the democratic principles are to be feared by the country. They admit, that the war is just only because it is "Polk's war," and that territorial expansion is to be feared only because the democracy are in favor of it. So much for whig principles.—State Register.

A NOBLE ACT.—General Dromgoole, it is said, has left his entire estate with the exception of a few friendly legacies, to the children of Dugger, who, ten years ago, fell by his hand in a duel. If this statement be true, it affords another evidence of the noble character of Mr. Dromgoole. The duel was not of Gen. D's seeking, but was forced upon him by a vicious state of public opinion, against his will.

Constitutional Convention.

TUESDAY, June 15.

Mr. Davis, of McLean, offered a resolution that the Judiciary committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of organizing the judiciary on a basis, the substance of which is as follows:

A supreme court, composed of three members, having appellate jurisdiction only, to be chosen in separate districts by the qualified voters thereof, for nine years, one to be elected every third year, after the expiration of three terms under such classification, their term to be nine years. Salary \$1200. Re-eligible, but incapable of holding any other office during the term and for two years after its expiration. Clerk to be chosen by voters of State at large, for a term of three years. The State to be divided into blank number of circuits—judge in each circuit elected by people, for six years. Salary \$1000. To hold no office during term, or two years after its expiration. Said courts to have probate jurisdiction. Clerks to be elected by the people for three years, who shall be ex officio recorders of deeds. Circuit attorneys elected by the people in each circuit. Salary \$300. Election of judges to be held at different times from the election of State officers.

Mr. Campbell, of Jo Daviess, moved to amend, so that the State may be divided into judicial districts: one term to be annually held in each. Resolution and amendment referred to the Judiciary committee.

Mr. Davis, of Montgomery, offered a resolution that the committee on Elections inquire into the expediency of so amending the constitution as to have all voting at elections by ballot.

Mr. Hurlbut moved to amend so as to request the committee to inquire into the expediency of so altering the 27th section of article 3, as to require that all electors shall be citizens of the United States.

Mr. Marshall, of Mason, moved to amend so as to strike out all after the word "resolved," and insert, in substance, that the committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending, as to require voters to have lived in the State twelve months, and one month next preceding the election. Provided, that all foreigners in the State at a time the constitution is adopted shall be considered as electors. Resolution and amendments referred to the committee on Elections.

Mr. Moffett offered a resolution that after the first day of January, 1849, no bank bill shall be passed in this State of a less denomination than twenty dollars, and in the event of a bank being established in this State, it shall not issue any bill of a less denomination than twenty dollars.

Mr. Pratt moved the following substitute: Resolved, That the committee on Incorporations be instructed to report such provisions as will effectually prohibit the power of the Legislature to create or authorize any individuals, company or corporation, with banking powers in this State.

Resolved, That said committee inquire into and report to the Convention such provisions as are best calculated gradually to exclude from, and prohibit the circulation in this State, of bank bills under the denomination of twenty dollars.

Mr. Hurlbut moved to amend by striking out the word "resolved," and inserting the following:

"That the committee on Incorporations be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending and altering the 21st section of articles of the constitution, as to provide for a system of general banking laws, similar in principle with the propositions lately adopted in the State of New York."

Mr. Scates was in favor of bringing the question up at an early day of the session. Much interest in it was felt, as well by the people, as most of the members of the Convention. It had now assumed a shape in which it was debatable, and, for one, he was ready to engage in it. The time between the final adjournment and the day appointed for the people to vote upon the constitution, will be so short as to preclude the people from obtaining the requisite information, to enable them to vote understandingly, unless the subject is taken up early. Yesterday, the resolutions of the gentlemen from Jo Daviess, (Mr. Pratt,) to prohibit banking in any form, were before the Convention; now the question to adopt the features of the general banking law of New York. He did not care how the question was presented so that the issue was made. He agreed fully with the gentleman from Boone, (Mr. Hurlbut,) that the question was one of the utmost importance, and he gave notice, that whenever it came to be acted upon, he should oppose and vote against banks in every form. He would make war upon them to the knife. He asked if gentlemen were prepared to let loose upon our State a flood of banks such as a constitution, like that of New York, would call into existence? The system is infinitely worse than the old system: for it opens a door to the creation of an endless number of banks. If one bank is mischievous, how much more so must a hundred be! Past experience has proved to us that in agricultural com-

munities such institutions are a curse, and we have found that the small bills of the thousand and one banks in our country have materially retarded our prosperity. The first proposition that was presented, related to small bills. Now, every man must admit, that this description of circulating medium must drive specie out of circulation. If we prohibit the circulation of bank bills of a less denomination than twenty dollars, all business transactions and contracts of a less amount will be carried on in gold and silver. If we do not prohibit we must necessarily have an almost exclusive paper circulation. It was so in the section where he lived. Before the Ohio and Kentucky banks flooded his region with their ones and twos, specie was plenty, but now metals had almost entirely disappeared. He was for driving small bills out of circulation.

Gentlemen had expressed a willingness to vote for referring the 'substitute to a committee,' but he saw no impropriety in discussing it before it was sent to all. We cannot expect the committee to report in such a manner as to meet the views of the Convention, unless full discussion is had in advance. He desired that the committee should enter upon their deliberations with all the light which a debate in this body could elicit.

He had often heard of well regulated banks, but he never knew one of that character. We have had in this State experience enough on this subject to have learned that they are fraught with disaster and ruin. We have had six banks, every one of which failed, involving the people in losses which millions of dollars would not repair, and now a proposition is brought forward to repeat the experiment on a grand scale; to establish a bank in every town and village, and deluge the State with paper money. If we desire a valuable & reliable circulating medium, we must, as all experience shows, exclude bank paper entirely.

Without taking the question, the Convention adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, June 16, 1847.

Mr. Eccles, from the Revenue committee, reported the following:

Resolved, That the new constitution shall provide for a poll tax.

Mr. Roundtree moved to amend by adding, "Provided, that the power to lay a capitation tax by the Legislature be proposed as a distinct proposition for adoption or rejection, by the people at the same time and places at which the vote shall be taken on the adoption or rejection of the new constitution, and if it shall appear that at said election, more votes are given in favor of said proposition than are given against it, the Legislature shall at its next session thereafter provided by law for levying such capitation tax, and continuing in force a law for the collection of a capitation tax: Provided, however, that non-payment of such tax shall not disqualify persons who are otherwise qualified voters from enjoying the right of election."

Mr. Davis of Montgomery said, that he could not agree with the gentleman from Jefferson, (Mr. Scates,) who takes the ground that the proposed tax is wrong in principle. Every man owes something to the government from which he receives protection—the man who owns no property as well as him who does—and as a patriot he should be willing to pay it.

He was opposed to making the payment of the tax a pre-requisite to the right of suffrage. He would do nothing to limit that right. He believed that no concession was necessary to collect the proposed tax, the people would pay it without compulsion.

The gentleman from Jefferson says that the poor pay a road tax and are liable to do military duty. So do the rich. In representative governments where all are equal, and participate equally in the benefits of government, all ought to contribute to its support, in proportion to the benefits they receive; and he did not doubt that all would be willing to give a consideration for such benefits.

He knew that the people of this region were in favor of the tax, and if imposed, he doubted not that they would pay it.—If now and then one should refuse, be it so—he would not fail to be held up to the contempt of the community, which would prove a powerful incentive to a compliance with the provision. He (Mr. D.) would support the last amendment.

Mr. Norton proposed the following amendment:

"Provided, That no capitation tax shall be assessed against any person not entitled to vote under the constitution and laws of the State. And, provided, further, that said tax shall be set apart to the payment of the public debt, until the same be paid."

Mr. Peters addressed the Convention in favor of a poll tax. He thought it just. The object of government is two fold; the protection of persons and property. He asked if property should alone support the government, whilst persons went free. There is property in the free air of heaven, and those who breathe it ought to pay a tax when it is the air of freedom. He did not see any justice in throwing the whole burden of supporting the government upon those without property have access to the courts of justice and participate in the blessings of government, why, then, he